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HISTORIE  
OF  
Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots.





# The Holyrood Series.

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111.

HISTORIE

OF

## Mary Stuart, QUEEN OF SCOTS,

*TO HER ESCAPE FROM LOCH  
LEVEN INTO ENGLAND.*

BY

W. STRANGEVAGE.

1624.

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TO  
THE KINGS  
MOST EXCELLENT  
MAIESTIE.

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Most Dread Soueraigne,

ZENO the Philosopher, being asked how a man might attaine wisdom, answered, By drawing neere vnto the dead. O the Sepulchers of our Ancestors, how much more doe they teach than all the studie, bookes and precepts of the learned !

And herein due praise must needs be ascribed vnto Historie, the life of memorie, and the mirrour of mans life, making

those Heroick acts to liue againe, which otherwise would be buried in eternall forgetfulnesse, whereby the minde (a greedy hunter after knowledge) is enflamed by affecting the seuerall perfections of others, to seeke after excellent things, and by feruent imitation to attaine to that glory which is gotten by vertue.

For these causes, (most renowned Soueraigne) when I considered Plutarke, laying aside the studie of Philosophie, to thinke the time well imploied in writing the liues of Theseus, of Aristides, and of other inferiour persons; and knowing how farre the lustre and splendor of Princes shineth beyond the brightnesse of others; every one standing for a million of the common people: And being sensible that it is infused euen by nature, every man to desire, and to be delighted with the relation and story of his owne Ancestors and predecessors:

For these reasons I presumed to present vnto your Highnesse this Treatise of

the life and death of your Royall Mother, the Lady MARY STUART Queene of Scotland; A History most fit for this your Meridian of Great Britaine, and yet neuer published in the English tongue before: Wherein, although I confesse the slendernesse of my skill in the exornation and beautifying of the stile, and thereby may worthily incurre the réproofoe of the learned; yet if your Maiesty vouchsafe your gracious and Princely acceptation, all faults therein shall easily bee couered and blotted out. Therefore I become your humble Orator, praying no other thing than the Sunne Diall of the Sunne, *Aspice me vt aspiciar*; most humbly beseeching the Almighty to blesse your most Excellent Maiestie, with a long happie and prosperous reigne.

Your Sacred Maiesties

most humble subiect,

WIL. STRANGVAGE.

THE  
PREFACE  
TO THE  
ENSVING HISTORIE.

It is a thing most true, and some finde it by experience, that here below in this world, there is nothing eternall: And how can it be otherwise, when the great Kings and Princes of the earth, who seeme to be created of the most pure substance of the Elements, of a matter, as may bee said, for their excellency incorruptible, of the fine gold of *Euilath*, and of the best mould, to the patterne of the fairest *Ideas*, and beare and carry the

Image and Seale of all puissance, as the chiefe impression of natures worke, in the plaine greatnesse of Maiestie, which engraue their forehead with a gracious statelinesse. Yet doe we see them euery day, who seeme vnto men to be lasting and durable, as eternity it selfe, to quit the arches of triumph, and to yeeld themselves vnto the triumph of death. And more than that, the most part of them finish their daies, not in the sweet and calme waters, like *Pourcontrells*, but by a death disseasoned, sometimes in their greene youth, and flourishing age, by the stormes and tempests, as doe the *Dolphins*, within the torrents, billowes, or waues of the sea, tossed by diuers factions. And it seemeth that this fatality pursueth ordinarily the most worthy and vertuous persons: so that they finish their liues many times with violence or precipitation; and not to goe vnto their death in a smooth path, but to bee interrupted with some strange accident, which eclipseth

the bright shining lustre of their greatnesse, which dasell the mindes of men, that from below beheld them sitting aloft on the throne of Maiestie. All which appeared most plainly and euidently to be true in the most worthy and royall Princesse MARY STVART Queene of *Scotland*, who in all her life being tossed and turmoiled with infinite misfortunes, concluded it with an vntimely death, as followeth in the sequell of this Historie of her life and death.

MARY STVART Queene of *Scotland*, was daughter vnto *James* the fift, King of *Scotland*, a wise and valiant Prince, and of the Lady MARY, of the Illustrious family of the Dukes of *Lorraine*, (whose fame for valour is renowned thorow all Christendome,) was borne on the eighth day of December in the yeere of our Lord 1541. She was not aboue eight daies old when her father died: being left thus young, the Noblemen of *Scotland* being diuided (whereof the family of the



*Hamiltons* and the Earle of *Lynnox* being the heads,) the one side supported by King *Henry* the eighth of *England*, and the other by the French King *Henry* the second; she was by the care of her mother who inclined vnto the *French* King, at the age of six yeeres or thereabouts, sent into *France* in the Gallies of *Villagagnon* a Knight of the *Rhodes* appointed by the *French* King vnto this seruice, in the which voyage by the West Seas (for in the other passage neere the Straits of *Calice*, the *Englishmen* had laid a strong Nauy to intercept her) she hardly escaped drowning by meanes of a storme or tempest that happened, neere vnto the coast of little *Brittaine* in *France*, where she afterward tooke land, from whence she was conueyed vnto the Court of *France*, where she was brought vp vnder her Curators the *French* King and the Dukes of *Guise*, and by their exquisite care she drew in with the aire the sweetnesse of the humours of the countrey, and

in the end by the singular grace of nature, and carefulnesse of her friends and Kinsfolks, became with her age the fairest and goodliest Princesse of our time. And beside this her rare beauty, she had her rare beauty, she had her vnderstanding and intendment so pure and perfect, her iudgement so certaine, surmounting, and aboue the condition of her age and sex, that it bred and caused in her a greatnesse of courage, which was yet mixt and qualified with such sweetnesse and modesty, that you could not see any thing more Royall, any thing more gracious. Her manners and priuate actions were such, and were so well liked of generally, that it caused King *Henry* the second of *France*, and his Queene (who was admired for her prudence) to marry their eldest sonne, *Daulphin* of *France* and heire of their Crowne, vnto this Lady, as vnto one well deseruing to be ioyned in mariage vnto their sonne, heire apparant of the greatest kingdome in *Europe*: And so

vpon the foure and twentieth day of *April*, in the yeere of our Lord 1558. *Francis* the *Daulphin* of *France* and *MARY STUART* Queene of *Scotland*, were married in the Church of *Nostra Dama* in *Paris*. One cannot declare with what applause of all the people, with what congratulation of all the neighbour Princes, with what Magnificence, this mariage was solemnized. By this her mariage her husband obtained not onely the Title of King of *Scotland* in the right of his wife, but also another more rich and great, which was, of the most contented Prince the earth then beheld, for that hee was ioyned in mariage with a Princesse who besides many other great vertues composed her selfe wholly to please and to giue content vnto her husband, and therein vsed not the ordinary care of a Princesse, but more trauell and sollicitude than doe the women of meane condition and qualitie married vnto great Princes, as also appeared after his death (which befell not long

after) by her immeasurable mourning, not being able to finde any consolation for her sorrow in that place where she had lost that which shee had loued better than her selfe, so much that the amitie of her kinsfolks and allies could not retaine her, nor the sorrow and regret of all *France* could not call her backe, nor the sweetnesse of that Court which inuited her could not stay her, but that shee would depart from thence.

After this on the seuateenth day of *Nouember* the same yeere deceased *Mary* of *England*; at which time the Parlament was holden at *Westminster*, being certified of her death, with a uniuersall consent, in regard of her most certaine right vnto the Crowne of *England* (of the which none could doubt,) both the Prelates and Nobles with the Commons agreed to haue the Lady ELIZABETH proclaimed Queene, which was done with the generall applause and consent of them and all the people.

Queene ELIZABETH being established and hauing taken order for things at

home, and domesticall affaires, applied her minde next to settle her affaires abroad : For which end it was thought fit to send Embassadors vnto Princes to signifie vnto them the death of Queene MARY, and her succession vnto the kingdome : Vnto *Ferdinand* the Emperor was sent *Thomas Challenor* with letters, wherein the Queene, vnder her owne hand, certified him that her sister Queene MARY was dead, and that she by the goodnesse of God was succeeded as her rightfull heire, and with the generall consent of her subiects, in the gouernment of the Realme ; and that she desired nothing more, than that the ancient League and amitie betweene the families of *England* and *Austria*, might not only be conserued but also increased. Vnto the King of *Spaine*, being in his Low countries, was sent the Lord *Cobham* with instructions to the same purpose.

King *Philip* vnderstanding the decease of Queene MARIE his wife, fearing lest

*England, Scotland, and Ireland*, should be adioyned vnto *France* by meanes of the Queene of *Scotland* her Title, delt seriously with Queene ELIZABETH by the *Conde of Feria*, whom he had sent before to visit his sicke wife, and the then Lady ELIZABETH also, about his mariage with her, promising to procure a dispensation for the same. This motion troubled her much, for to reiect the most mightie King of *Europe* (hauing deserued well of her) and suing to her for mariage vpon his owne motion: This thing no lesse disquieted the *French* King, who was also fearefull that *England* and *Spaine* should bee conioyned againe in one by mariage; therefore hee did all that was possible to be done at *Rome*, by the Bishop of *Angulesme*, that no such dispensation should be granted, but yet very secretly, lest he should prouoke the *Englishmen* against him: but she put him off with a modest and shamefast answer. And when hee saw that he could not obtaine



his suit for himselfe, and had also giuen it quite ouer, being agreed with the *French* King to marry his daughter, yet that the kingdome of *England* might be retained in his family still, he moued the Emperour *Ferdinand* to commend one of his sonnes to be a suiter vnto Queene ELIZABETH, which motion he willingly entertained, and for that purpose sent vnto her very louing letters, and by *Gaspar Preynerus*, free Baron in *Stibing*, diligently followed and prosecuted the same, the King of *Spaine* himselfe also, to bring it the sooner to passe, and to further it, most courteously offering and promising vnto Queene ELIZABETH his singular loue, kindnesse and affection.





THE  
LIFE, DEATH,  
AND  
VARIABLE

fortunes of the most gracious  
Queene, MARIE STEVVARD  
Queene of *Scotland*.

Anno 1559.

THE French King, Henrie the second, for the benefit of his sonne the Dolphin King, and MARIE Queene of Scots (casting his eies vpon England) did not withdraw his French Souldiers out of Scotland, as hee had promised, but sent secretly more

daily into Scotland, and dealt vehemently with the Pope, to pronounce Queene Elizabeth an Heretike, and illegitimate, which the Emperor and the King of Spaine, most diligently, but couertly, sought to hinder: yet had the Guises drawne the French King into such a sweet hope of adioyning England vnto the Crowne of France, by the Title of their Niece the Queene of Scots, that he openly claimed the same in the right of his sonne and daughter in law: And commanded them, when hee could not obtaine his purpose at Rome, to vse this title in all their Letters patents; FRANCIS and MARIE by the grace of God, of Scotland, England, and Ireland, King and Queene, and caused the armes of England, together with the armes of Scotland, to be painted in the walls, buildings, and in the household stuffe: and also to be put into the Heralds coats. The English Ambassador in vaine complained, that herein great wrong was done vnto Queene Elizabeth,

with whom he had made lately a league, and had not done this to Queene MARIE of England, who had proclaimed warre against him. But Henries sudden death, which happened shortly after, made an end of his attempts.

But Francis the second (who succeeded him) and MARIE Queene of Scots his wife (by the counsell of the Guises, who were then of great authoritie in France) bore themselues openly as Kings of England and Ireland, neither did they abstaine from claiming the armes, but set them out more and more. And vnto Nicholas Throgmorton the Lieger Embassador, a man both wise and stout, it was first answered: That it was lawfull for the Queene of Scots to beare them with some little difference, to shew the nearenesse of her blood vnto the royall line of England. Hee stifly denied it, saying that by the Law of Armes, none who was not begot of the certaine Heire, might beare the armes of any familie. Afterward they

said they bore the armes for no other cause, than to cause the Queene of England to abstaine from bearing the armes of France. Yet at length he obtained at the intercession of Mont Morancy, who loued not the Guises, that they left off the armes of England and Ireland altogether. But yet from this title and usurpation of armes, which Henrie made the young Queene of Scots to take on her (moued thereto by the Guises) proceeded all the euils, which came so thicke vpon her afterward, as from the originall cause. For from hence Queene Elizabeth was an open and professedemie to the Guises, and bare a secret hate against her, which the craftie malice of men did so nourish, the emulation increasing betweene them, and new occasions arising daily, that they could not be extinguishe d, but with her death.

## Anno 1560.

THEN followed the Treatie of Edenburgh, wherein amongst many other things, it was agreed, that the King of France and Queene MARIE should leaue off the bearing of the title and armes of England and Ireland : but when the time of confirming the same came, and Queene Elizabeth sent into France to haue it ratified (as shee had done) Throgmorton the Legier Embassador could not bring them to doe it by any meanes ; and whilst the matters hung in suspence, and rested vndetermined, Francis the second, King of France, not being eighteene yeere old, and in the second yeere of his reigne, deceased, and left the Queene of Scots a widow, whether to the greater grieve of the Romanists, or ioy of the Prorestants in Britaine, I cannot say.

Anno 1561.

FRANCIS Earle of Bedford, was sent into France, to deplore the death of King Francis, and to gratulate Charles the ninth, his successor, and by himselfe, and together with Throgmorton the ordinarie Ambassador, he importuned the Queene of Scots to confirme the treatie of Edinburgh, but in vaine, for she answered no other thing, but that shee could not, nor would not determine on so great a matter, without the consent of the Nobilitie of Scotland.

The Queene of Scots intending to returne into Scotland, sent Monsieur d'Oysell to request a safe conduct of Queene Elizabeth for to passe by Sea, and for d'Oysell, to passe thorow England. Queene Elizabeth before a great multitude of people, denied both the one, and the other, for this cause, she said that she had not ratified the treatie of Edinburgh, which if she did, shee promised to shew



all kindnesse that might bee expected from a Queene, from a Cousin, and from a neighbour. The Queene of Scots being vexed at this repulse, sent for Throgmorton, with whom she had long speeches about this matter, which I will briefly set downe out of the letters of Throgmorton, (though I shal make rehearsal of some things already said) that the originall and progresse of the priuie malice which was betweene the greatest and wisest Princesses of our time or age, may more euidently appeare. Shee sending all the standers by away, said thus to Throgmorton: What is my womanly weaknesse, and how farre the passion of my mind may carrie me, I know not, yet it liketh me not to haue so many witnesses of my weaknesse, as your Ladie lately had when shee talked with Monsieur d'Oysell my Embassador: nothing griueth me so much as that I did aske those things which were not needfull: by Gods fauour I can returne into my Countrie, without asking her

leaue, as I came hither in despite of her brother Edward. Neither want I friends which can and will bring me home, as they brought me hither; but I had rather haue vsed her friendship, than of any other. I haue often heard you say, that the amitie betweene her and mee was necessary to both our Kingdomes, yet it seemeth that shee thinketh otherwise, or else she had not giuen mee the repulse in so small a matter: but perhaps shee beareth more fauour vnto the Scots, which rebell against me, than to me the Queene of Scots, equall to her in princely royaltie, her nearest kinswoman, and most certaine heire vnto her. Doest thou thinke that that good will and loue can be betweene my rebellious subiects and her, that may bee betweene her and me? What? Doth shee thinke that I shall bee destitute of friends? Assuredly she hath driuen mee to aske helpe of them of whom I would not willingly. And they cannot wonder enough for what purpose shee gaue aid



lately vnto my subiects, and now to hinder the returne of mee a widow vnto my subiects. I aske nothing of her but amitie, I procure no trouble vnto her, nor meddle not with the affaires of England. But yet I am not ignorant that there bee many in England who are not content with the estate as it is now. Shee twitteth me, and faith, that I haue small experience; I confesse it: Age bringeth experience with it; yet I am so old, that I can behaue my selfe friendly, kindly, and iustly toward my kinsfolks and friends, and keepe my tongue from speaking any thing, not beseeming a Queene and a kinswoman. But by her leaue, I may say, that as well as shee I am a Queene, neither destitute of friends, and to beare no lesse high minde than shee, and it may beseeme vs to measure our selues with a certaine equalitie: but I forbear comparison, which is little better than contention, and wanteth not euill will. As for the treatie of Edenburgh, it was made in the life of

the King my husband, whom it was my dutie to obey in all things, and since that hee delaied the confirmation of the same, let the blame remaine in him, and not in me.

After his death, the Counsellors of France left me to mine owne Counsellors, neither would mine Vncles meddle with the affaires of Scotland, because they would not offend Queene Elizabeth, nor the Scots. The Scots that be with me be priuate men, nor such fit men that I should aske counsell of them in such great matters. As soone as I shall haue the aduice of the Estates of my Realme, I will make a reasonable answer; and I will make all the haste I can home, to giue it the sooner. But shee determineth to stop my way, lest I should giue it, so shee is the cause that I cannot satisfie her; or else shee would not bee satisfied perhaps, for the intent that there may bee no end of discord betweene vs. Shee casteth often in my teeth, that I am a

young girle, as a reproach, and truly she may iustly thinke mee an vnwise girle if I dealt in these weightie affaires, without the aduice of the Estates. A wife is not bound, as I haue heard, with the deeds of her husband, neither in her honour, nor in conscience: but I doe not dispute this thing, yet I may say this thing truly; I haue done nothing to my dearest sister, which I would not haue done to my selfe; I haue vsed all offices of courtesie and kindred, but shee either beleeueth not, or contemneth them: I would to God I were so deare to her as I am neare of bloud, for this were a pretious kinde of kindred. God forgiue them that sow the seeds of dissention betweene vs (if there bee any such.) But thou who art an Embassador, tell mee in good sooth, for what cause she is displeased with me, who neuer hurt her hitherto either in word or deed.

To these speeches Throgmorton made answer: I haue no commission to answer

you, but to heare what your answer is, about the confirmation of the treatie of Edenburgh. But if it please you to heare the cause of displeasure, I will lay it downe in few words (laying aside the person of an Embassadour.) As soone as the Queene my Ladie and Mistresse was crowned, you did vsurpe the title and armes of England, which you did not take in the reigne of Queene MARIE; Iudge you in your discretion if a greater wrong can bee offered vnto a Prince: Such iniuries as this, priuate men cannot digest, much lesse Princes.

But, said she, my husbands father, and my husband himselfe would haue it done, and commanded it to bee so. After their decease, when I was at mine owne hand, I left off wholly both those armes, and the title, but yet I know not how it can be any wrong to the Queene, if I also a Queene, whose Grand-mother was eldest sister vnto Henry the eight, doe beare these armes, since others farther off than

I bore them: I am sure, Courtney Marquesse of Exceter, and the Duchesse of Suffolke, Niece vnto Henry the eight, by his younger sister, did beare the armes of England, with borders for a difference, by a speciall fauour.

When these things did not satisfie Queene Elizabeth, who was fully perswaded that shee put in delaies still vpon some more hopes, since she had not proposed vnto the Estates of Scotland, who had once or twice assembled since her husbands death, any thing about the confirmation of the treatie; She being vpon her way, sent for Throgmorton againe vnto Abbeuille, where shee courteously asked him, how she might satisfie Queene Elizabeth in word or deed; he said, by ratifying the treatie of Edenburgh (as I haue often said) vnto whom shee said: Now heare and iudge, if there bee not most iust reasons, which she calleth delaies and vaine excuses: The first Article in it, of ratifying the treatie of

Chasteau Cambresy, betweene England and France, pertaineth nothing vnto me. The second, of ratifying the treaty betweene England and Scotland, was ratified by my husband and mee ; neither can it bee ratified againe, when my husband is expressedly named in it. The Articles 3, 4, and 5. are already performed, for the preparations for warre are ceased. The French Souldiers are called backe out of Scotland, and the Fortresse of Aymouth is demolished, I haue not borne nor vsed the title nor armes of England since my husbands death. It is not in my power to put them out of the houshold stuffe, buildings, and Letters patents through France, as it is not in my power to send into England the Bishop of Valence, and Randan, who are not my subiects, to dispute about the sixth Article: And for the last Article, I hope my seditious subiects shall not haue cause to complaine of my seueritie. But as I perceiue, she will preuent me by stopping



my returne, that they shall not haue triall of my clemencie: what remaineth now in this treatie, which may be wrong to the Queene? Yet that I may giue her satisfaction more abundantly, I will write larger Letters of this businesse with mine owne hand, though shee doth not vouchsafe to write backe vnto me, but by her Secretarie: But I pray you my Lord Embassador, doe the part of an Embassador, that is, rather mollifie than exasperate the matter.

But yet Queene Elizabeth was not satisfied with these letters, in whose minde the iniurie for the vsing of the armes and title of England was deeply imprinted, and still shee was afraid, lest shee should challenge them againe, if shee were not bound and tied thereto by the confirmation of the treatie and the religion of an oath.

In the meane while the Q of Scotland getting a good gale of wind, departed from Calice, and in a foggie mist passing by

the English ships, which some thought were sent to Sea to conuey her with honour; others, to suppress Pirates, and as others said, to intercept and take her, arriued safe in Scotland: For Iames the Bastard very lately returning by England, had secretly willed Queene Elizabeth to take her by the way, if she had a desire to prouide for Religion, and her owne securitie. And Lidington being glad that d'Oysell was detained in England, perswaded it also. Shee being returned into Scotland, vsed her subiects with all courtesie, changed not their religion (though it had beene brought in by tumults) and beganne to settle the common wealth by enacting good Lawes: But vnto Queene Elizabeth shee sent Lidington with her owne, and the Letters of the Scottish Nobilitie, in the which shee promised all care to make and conserue amitie with her; and requested that a certaine forme of peace might bee made betweene England and Scotland, and that



there was none more certaine, than if Queene Elizabeth (if shee should haue no issue) would declare her by the authoritie of Parliament, the next heire to succeed her in the Realme of England.

This thing seemed strange vnto Queene Elizabeth, who looked for the confirmation of the treatie of Edenburgh, promised by word, and by her hand writing: yet she answered; As concerning the succession, shee hoped the Queene of Scotland would not by violence take her Crowne away from her and her children, if she had any: shee promised not to derogate any thing of her right vnto the Crowne of England, although she had claimed the title and armes of England, through the too much hastie ambition of other men, for which iniurie it was meet that she made satisfaction. By setting downe her successor, shee feared lest their friendship should bee rather disseuered than consolidated, for that vnto men established in gouernment, their successors are alwaies

suspected and hated : the people, such is their inconstancie vpon a dislike of present things, doe looke after the rising Sunne, and forsake the Sunne setting ; and the successors designed cannot keepe within the bounds of Iustice and truth, their owne hopes and other mens lewd desires : Moreouer, if she should confirme the succession vnto her, shee should thereby cut off the hope of her owne securitie, and being aliue, hang her winding-sheet before her owne eies, yea, make her owne funerall feast aliue, and see the same.

After shee had answered these things thus, shee did againe, sending her letters vnto her by Peter Newtas, mildly will her to confirme the treatie. Neither did the other directly denie it, but insinuated, that shæe could not doe it, vntill shee had set the affaires of Scotland in good order.

Anno 1562.

Margaret Countesse of Lynnox, Niece

to King Henry the eight by his eldest sister, was deliuered as prisoner to Richard Sackuill, and her husband the Earle of Essex was assigned vnto the Master of the Rolls in the like manner, for that hee had secret intelligence by letters, with the Queene of Scots, in which custodie both of them were kept a good space.

Not long after, Henry Sidney was sent vnto the Queene of Scots, whose message was, that the enteruiew which he had desired to haue with Queene Elizabeth might bee put off vnto the next yeere, or vntill the French warres were waxen colder.

At this time it was consulted, whether it was for any good purpose, that these two Princesses should come vnto an enteruiew or conference: For, that the Queene of Scotland required it, bred a suspicion that she did it for some commoditie or benefit, and to espie some aduantage, either to strengthen her right in England, or else to giue a hope, and erect the minds of the Papists in England, and her Cousens

the Guises in France. On the other side, others thought hereby a most firme amitie might bee concluded betweene them, the league betweene the French and the Scots weakened by little and little, and the Queene of Scots wonne by faire words vnto the Religion of the Protestants. Others noted, that out of such enteruiews or conferences, grew the seeds rather of emulation, than of loue, when one should hate and repine at the ostentation of the others brauerie, wealth and power, and for that many times the presence and view is not answerable vnto report and opinion; and so of the comelinesse of the body, of the beautie of the face, and of the gifts of the minde: And that one might have cause and occasion to finde fault with the other. Neither did the Queene of Scotland thinke it safe to deliuer her selfe into the hands of Queene Elizabeth, with whom she had contended for the right of the Kingdome: It made her to stagger, and to doubt in the matter,

and also to which side to incline and sway, when shee heard that Queene Elizabeth stood openly for the Protestants in France: whilest she considered (as shee wrote herselfe) that shee came by her father from the English blood, and by her mother from the French, that shee was crowned Queene, and Dowager of France, and the most rightful Heire of England, and withall expected the Kingdome thereof: That shee was much indebted vnto her Vncles in France, which had brought her vp, and that shee much desired the loue of Queene Elizabeth.

Yet she feared, such was her piercing vnderstanding, lest if shee ioined her selfe with her in a very strict kinde of amitie, she might procure the euill will of the French King, be abandoned by her Vncles, and lose her dowrie out of France, by preferring the vncertaine friendship of Queene Elizabeth (which, to vse her owne words, passed not beyond the person) before the certaine loue of the

French. Hereupon the conference (which had beene treated of many moneths, and the Articles also drawne) came to nothing, especially when shee by her letters did vtterly refuse to come vnto the enteruiew, except she might be designed heire apparant of England by authoritie of Parliament, or else bee adopted by Queene Elizabeth to be her daughter, to lay a foundation of a most certaine peace and vnion of both the Realmes, so often desired. If these things were granted, she promised to addict herself wholly to Queene Elizabeth, yea, and not to respect and regard her Vncles the Guises. Also in these letters shee insinuated that shee vrged these things the more vehemently, for that shee had heard that many did secretly deuise to set in another successor, and that onely for the cause of Religion, though shee did tolerate in Scotland the Religion of the Protestants.

But when the Cardinall of Lorraine, at the same time dealt with the Emperour



Ferdinand, that shee might marrie with his sonne Charles the Archduke, who then sued vnto Q. Elizabeth for mariage; Queene Elizabeth threatned her by Thomas Randolph, that if shee did consent vnto the Cardinall (the mortall enemye of England) about the mariage, both that the amitie betweene England and Scotland might be dissolued, and perhaps she excluded from her hope of the Realme of Englande: and if she would not misse thereof, she in friendly manner willed her to choose such a husband in England, in whose choice shee might principally giue her selfe content, and then giue satisfaction to her owne Subiects, and also to the English men, in the conseruation of the peace, and make the way smother and plainer vnto her assured succession in England, which cannot bee published and made knowne vntil it was certainly knowne whom she would take to her husband

Anno 1563.

When in the heat of the ciuill warres of France, the Duke of Guise, Vncle vnto the Q. of Scotland, was slaine, her dowrie out of France was not paid, Hamilton D. of Chasteauleroy was depriued of his Duchie, and the Scots were displaced from the Captainship of the Guard, which things she tooke in very euill part: The Cardinall of Lorraine, another of her Vncles, fearing lest hereupon she leauing the French, should cleaue vnto the amitie of England, he proposed againe by Crocus, the mariage with Charles d'Austria, offering to her the Countie of Tyrole for her dowrie. Shee acquainted Queene Elizabeth with the matter, who by Randolph gaue her those former admonitions about the choosing of a husband (as I haue said before) and then in plainer terms commended Robert Dudley (whose wife being the heire of Robert, was killed a good while since, by falling downe a paire



of staires) and promised that if shee would marrie him, she should be declared by the authoritie of Parliament, sister, or daughter, and heire apparant of England, if she died without issue. As soone as the Queene mother and her Vncles heard this by Foixius the French Embassador in England, they did so disdain the mariage with Dudley, as altogether vnequall and vnworthy to match in a royall stocke and lineage, as they promised not onely to pay her dowrie, but also to restore vnto the Scots all their former liberties, and more large also, if she would persist firmly in the friendship of France, and refuse the mariage offered vnto her: and also they suggested and put in her head, that Queene Elizabeth did propose this mariage, not seriously, but colourably, as though shee had assigned Dudley for her owne husband: And that there was no cause why she should put any trust or confidence in the authoritie of a Parliament, since that in England one

Parliament may repeale that which another hath enacted. Moreouer, that the purposes of the English men were no other, but by one meanes or other to keepe her alwaies from mariage. But yet she referred this matter vnto conference, being wonderfully vexed and troubled at home, when Murrey cast into prison the Archbishop of Saint Andrews, because he abstained not from saying Masse, vnto whom shee hardly got pardon, with shedding of teares. And the hot spirited Ministers of the Church, bolstered by the authoritie of Murrey, offered violence (without any controlment) vnto a Priest who had said Masse in the Court (which was permitted by the law). Neither was shee able to repress the tumultuous persons, though shee applied all her minde about the good of the common wealth, by granting a generall pardon, increasing the fees or wages of the Iudges, by making wholesome Lawes, as making Adulterie to bee death, and sitting her selfe in iudgement

thereby to make by Law the highest equall with the lowest.

Anno 1564.

In this yeere Queene Elizabeth created Robert Dudley Master of her Horse, a man in high fauour with her, in whom she had in her secret purpose appointed husband for the Queene of Scotland, that he might be more worthy of that match; Baron of Denbigh, giuing vnto him Denbigh, with the demeanes, and the next day Earle of Lycester, to him and his heires males lawfully begotten: For whose sake also shee had before created his elder brother Ambrose Baron Lisle, and Earle of Warwicke; and to his heires males lawfully begotten, and to Robert his brother, and to his heires males of his body lawfully begotten. Dudley aduanced to these honours, to purchase fauour and grace with the Queene of Scotland, vnto whom he made suit in mariage, studied

with all kinde of offices to deserue well of her, and forthwith accused Bacon keeper of the great Seale, vnto the Queene, that hee had dealt in the matter of succession against the Queene of Scotland, and that hee was priuie and accessary vnto a Pamphlet made by one Hales, who endeououred to proue the right of the Crowne of England, to belong vnto the familie of Suffolke, if the Queene died without Heire : for the which he had beene put in prison ; but Bacon (though hee denied the same) was with much adoe, and after a long time restored vnto the Queenes fauour by Cecill, who kept his owne iudgement in this point secret to himselfe, and alwaies determined so to doe, vnlesse the Queene (as he would say) commanded him to speake his mind, for she could not endure of all things to haue the right of succession called into question and dispute : but the wiser and the richer men, were troubled with nothing more, while in the controuersie of Religion the hot

Protestants thought the Q. of Scotland was to be put by, and reiected, because she was of another Religion, though her right was vndoubted (out of some querks and words of their Law bookes.) Some of the Romanists, and most that regarded equitie and iustice, thought she was to be receiued, as the true and certaine Heire by the Law. And many preferred Margaret, Aunt to the Queene of Scotland, the wife of Matthew Stewart Earle of Lennox, and her children, as those of whom they hoped the best, as borne in England. These things were not vnknowne vnto the Q. of Scotland, who to preuent it as much as she could, by the aduice of the Countesse of Lennox her Aunt, sent for Matthew Earle of Lennox, to come into Scotland, vnder pretence to restore him into his ancient Patrimonie, but indeed to aske him counsell in these affaires, who by his wiues meanes, obtained leaue, and also letters of commendations from Queene Elizabeth, after hee had beene banished

from his natiue Countrie now full twentie yeeres.

Hee (for I will for more perspicuitie and light to the matter, rehearse the same somewhat higher) was borne of the same stocke of the Stewarts, as the royall familie of the Scots was: For Marie daughter vnto Iames the second, King of Scotland, bore vnto Iames Hamilton, Iames the first of this stock, Earle of Arran, and Marie his daughter, wife vnto Matthew Stewart Earle of Lennox, the first of this Christian name. Iames Earle of Arran, his first wife being diuorced, and yet liuing, married Ienet Beton, Aunt to Cardinall Beton, by whom he had Iames D. of Chasteauleroy, whom his adueursaries hereupon accounted a Bastard. Marie sister to the Earle of Arran, bore vnto Matthew, Iohn Earle of Lennox, who being slaine by the Hamiltons, at such time as he would haue restored Iames the fourth to his libertie, left this second Matthew Stewart (of whom we speake)

Earle of Lennox, most deare to Iames the fift, in regard of his father. But Matthew (the King being dead, and the Hamiltons hauing all the gouernment in their power) departed secretly into France, from whence he was sent by Henry the second, the French King, to see that the common wealth of Scotland tooke no harme by Hamilton the Regent, and herein he behaued himselfe worthily: but being a plaine and honest minded man, (and entangled by the craft and policie of Cardinall Beton, and Hamilton,) he fell out of the fauour of the French King in a short time: And when hee could neither tarrie at home, nor returne into France, he came into England and submitted himselfe to King Henry the eighth, who accepted him as a man well beloued in the West borders, and acknowledged him as next heire to the Crowne of Scotland, after MARIE then an infant, (though the Hamiltons confiscated all his possessions, as of a Traitor condemned), and married



him vnto the Ladie Margaret Douglas his Niece, by his eldest sister, giuing him lands in England, worth yeerely of the old rent 1700. Markes, he promising for his part, to deliuer into the hands of the King of England, the Castles of Dunbritton, the Ile of Butha, and the Castle of Rothsay, which peeces being couragiously and valiantly attempted, could not yet be gotten.

This man, the Queene of Scotland (a woman prudent and circumspect, and who applied all her studies upon the hopes of England) sent for to come into Scotland (as I haue said) pardoned his banishment, restored him vnto his ancient possessions, as well that shee might oppose him against the attempts of Iames the Bastard, as also to put other folkes out of hope of the succession of England, by his sonne, Henry Darly. For if that young man borne of the royall bloud in England, and well beloued of the English Nation, should marrie with some of the

great families of England, shee secretly to her selfe feared, that he bolstered vp with the power of England, might bee a blocke in her way, in the right of her succession in England, since hee was accounted in most mens opinion, the second heire of the Crowne of England after her: and there was nothing shee more wished, than that the Realmes of England and Scotland might deuolue by her meanes vnto some of the Scottish race, and by him might bee propagated vnto posteritie, in the ancient surname of the Stewarts.

This came to the knowledge of Queene Elizabeth, and to preuent her purpose, shee declared vnto her by Randolph, that that mariage was so vniuersally disallowed by the English men, that she adiourned the Parliament against the will of her Councill vntill another time, lest the Estates, moued vnto wrath for this cause, should make some act against her right in succession: which lest it should afterward come to passe, she willed her not to

doe so, but to giue satisfaction vnto the English men, by thinking vpon some other match. And now againe she commended Leicester (whom she had aduanced vnto the degree of an Earle, and especially for that cause) with more earnestnesse, to bee her husband.

Ypon this occasion at Barwicke, in the moneth of Nouember, there talked together about the mariage with Leicester, the Earle of Bedford and Randolph, and for her were Murrey and Lidington Commissioners. The English men promised firme amitie, perpetuall peace, and certaine hope of the succession, if shee would marrie with Leicester, for vpon this condition, Queene Elizabeth had promised to declare her daughter adoptiue, or sister by authoritie of Parliament. The Scots stood hard to it, that it was not for the dignitie of a Queene desired for wife by Charles the sonne of the Emperor Ferdinand, the King of France, the Prince of Condy, and the Duke of Ferrara, to abase

her selfe vnto the mariage of a new-made Earle, and a subiect of England, vpon a hope onely, and no dowrie being offered, saying also it was neither honorable vnto the Queene of England, to commend so meane a husbände to so great a Princesse, her next kinswoman ; but that this should bee a most certain argument of loue, if she would permit her at her owne choice to elect her selfe a husband, who shall keepe peace with England, and withall assigne a good annuitie vnto her, and confirme the right of succession by the authoritie of Parliament. In all this businesse Queen Elizabeth earnestly desired, that the succession of both the Kingdomes might be established in the English Nation, though she was slow in the same. The Queene of Scotland (when the matter had hung thus in talke for the space of two years now determined to take Darly vnto her husband, did suspect that Queene Elizabeth did not deale sincerely with her, but that she did propound this mariage

for no other end and purpose, but that shee might make the first choice of the best suiter or wooer for her selfe, or else might marrie with better excuse vnto Leicester. But the Scottish Delegates looking also for their own purposes, determined by one way or other to thrust some obstacle or other in any mariage, that they might retain still their authoritie with the Queene. Queene Elizabeth had willed the Commissioners to hinder the mariage with Darly; and Leicester himselfe, accounting himselfe most sure of Queene Elizabeth, willed Bedford secretly by his letters, not to vrge the matter much. And vpon this hope it is thought he fauored Darly in secret.

Anno 1565.

In the meane time Darly got leaue with much adoe to goe into Scotland, and to stay there three moneths, by the earnest and humble suit his mother made

vnto Queene Elizabeth, vnder the colour, that he might bee present at the restoring of his father : and so he came vnto Edinburgh, in the moneth of Februarie. He was a young man, of personage most worthy of an Empire, of a comely stature, of a most milde nature, and sweet behauour. As soone as the Queene of Scotland saw him, she fell in loue with him, and to couer her loue she talked now and then with Randolphe the English Embassadour in Scotland, about the marriage with Leicester, and at the same time sent to Rome for a dispensation, because Darly and shee were so neere of kinne, that a dispensation was necessary by the Canon Lawes. But when these things came to light, shee sent Lidington vnto Queene Elizabeth, that shee might marrie with Darly by her consent, and not bee kept any longer vnmarried vpon vaine expectations. Queene Elizabeth propounded the matter to her priuie Councill, who out of the secret sug-



gestions of Murrey, easily beleueed, that the purpose of the Queene of Scotland tended by this mariage to strengthen, and againe to claime the title, and her right vnto the Realme of England, and withall to deduce it vnto the Romane Religion againe, and that many would incline vnto them, vpon the certaintie of their succession comming of this mariage, and others out of the loue vnto the Romane Religion, and forasmuch as they vnderstood, that most of the Iustices of Peace were addicted vnto it. To preuent these things, they thought it most necessarie, first to winne the Queenes good will, to marrie speedily some husband, that out of the certaintie of succession by her and her issue, and from none other, the affaires and hopes of English men might depend, for they feared that if the Queene of Scotland married first, and had issue, the most of the people would incline and bend toward her side, because of the certaintie of the succession



and securitie. Secondly, that the profession of the Romane Religion should bee infringed, or weakened, as much as might be: and that of the reformed, diligently aduanced and established; this by dealing more moderately with some hot spirited Protestants about things indifferent; and the other, by calling in the depriued Bishops vnto their prisons (for they had beene dispersed into the Countries in the time of the great plague) by giuing vnto the Bishops more ample authoritie, to exercise the Ecclesiastical lawes against that terrifying bugge of the Premunire, (which the Lawyers objected against them) by suppressing bookes comming from the Low-countries into England, set out by Harding, and the Diuines that were fled ouer the Seas, by remouing away certaine Scottish Priests that lurked in England; by depriuing the English fugitiues of their Ecclesiasticall liuings, which they enioyed vntill this time; by compelling the Iudges of the

land, who for the most part were Papists, to take the oath of Supremacie. But to disturbe the mariage with Darly, it was thought best to put them in feare, by mustering Souldiers vpon the borders toward Scotland, and by putting a greater Garrison into Barwicke: that the Countesse of Lennox mother to Darly, and Charles her sonne should be committed vnto Prison: the Earle of Lennox, and Darly his sonne, should be recalled out of Scotland, vpon paine to forfeit all their goods, before that any league could bee made by them with the Kings of France, or Spaine: that the Scots enemies to the mariage, should be maintained, and Catharine Gray, with the Earle of Hertfort, should be receiued into some fauour, of whom as of her competitor in the succession of the Kingdome, shee seemed somewhat to bee afraid. And this was all that they could deuise to hinder the mariage.

Hereupon Nicholas Throgmorton is

sent vnto the Queene of Scotland ; who should aduise her to deliberate long on that which was to be done but once, that repentance alwaies followed hastie marriage, and to commend instantly the marriage with Leicester, and that the marriage with her Aunts sonne was contrary vnto the Canon Law : for Queene Elizabeth very much desired, that by her, some of the English Nation might succeed in both the Realmes : although some men there were, that thought it would be best for Religion, and both the Realmes, if she died without issue. She answered, the matter could not bee recalled, and that Queene Elizabeth had no cause to be angry, when according to her counsell, she had chosen not a stranger but an English man, and one borne of the royall bloud of both the Kingdomes, and the noblest man of birth of all Brittain. Lidington lying in England, did often propose the marriage of the Queene of Scotland vnto Leicester colourably and also to the D. of Norfolke, as to

one more worthy of a Princesses marriage, who at that time put off the same with a modest refusall.

The Queene of England, to interpose some impediment vnto this hastened mariage, called backe Lennox and Darly, as her subiects, according to the times expressed in their licence. The father excused himselfe most modestly in his letters: the sonne desired that she would not be against his preferment, and insinuated, that it may be that he may be profitable to his deare Countrie of England: and openly professed himselfe a louer and honourer of the Queene of Scotland aboue all others, who to giue correspondencie to his loue, first made him Knight, and afterward Lord Ardmnoch, Earle of Rosse, and Duke of Rothsay, and the fift moneth after his comming into Scotland, tooke him to her husband, with the consent of the most of the Noble men, and proclaimed him King. Murrey, who applied all his wit

to his owne priuate ambition (and under the goodly pretence of Religion) had drawne in the Duke of Chasteauleroy, an honest minded man, vnto his side, fretting, and others raising tumults, and arguing these questions :

Whether a Papist was to be receiued to be their King ?

Whether the Queene of Scotland might choose her selfe a husband at her owne election ?

Whether the Noblemen of the Land, might not by their authoritie appoint her a husband ?

The Queene of England, who knew the milde nature of Darly, and the plaine and honest minde of the father, taking compassion of the young man her Cousin, and of the Queene a young woman also, who had to deale with most turbulent persons, who being aboue this twentie yeeres loosed from the gouernment of Kings, could not now endure any Kings, tooke it more quietly.

Neither had she any feare of them, when she saw the power of the Queene her aduersarie not increased by that meane match, and had the mother of Darly in her hand : and foresaw, that trouble would arise hereupon in Scotland, which began incontinently : for many Noblemen of Scotland, as Hamilton and Murrey, chafing and fretting at the mariage, this man for that the mariage was made without the consent of the Queene of England, the other vpon a spight or priue malice against the familie of Lennox, but both of them vnder the pretext of the conseruation of Religion, displaid their banners in manner of warre, to disturbe the mariage, so that the Queene was of necessitie enforced to leuie forces, that the mariage might be celebrated with securitie : and then she did so fiercely pursue the rebels, by the helpe of the King her husband, that she made them flie into England, before the bands of English men, promised to them, could come ; but the

Queene of England did couertly grant a lurking place vnto Murrey, who was wholly addicted vnto the English, and secretly maintained him with money by Bedford, vntill hee returned into Scotland, which was the day after the murder of Dauid Rizius. The causes which Queene Elizabeth alleadged, why shee admitted Murrey, and the Scottish rebels into England, were, for that the Queene of Scotland had receiued Taxley, Standen, and Welsh, English fugitiues, into Scotland, and receiued O-Neale, a great man of Ireland, into her protection, had intelligence with the Pope against England, and had not done iustice on the theeues on the borders, and on Pirates.

Queene Elizabeth not forgetfull of the Scottish affaires, a moneth or two after the mariage, sent Tamworth, a Gentleman of her priuie Chamber, vnto the Queene of Scotland, to warne her not to violate the peace, and to expostulate with her hastie mariage with the natiue subject of Eng-



land, without her consent, and withall, to request that Lennox and Darly might be sent back into England, according to the league, and that Murrey might be receiued againe into fauour. Shee smelling his arrand, admitted him not to her presence, but in articles deliuered in writing, promised in the word of a Prince, that neither shee nor her husband would attempt any thing to wrong the Queene of England, or her children lawfully begotten, or the quiet of the Realme, either by receiuing fugitiues, or by making league with strangers, or by any other means; yea, most willingly that they would make such league with the Queene and Realme of England, which might be profitable and honourable for both the Realmes, neither that they would innouate any thing in the Religion, Lawes, and liberties of England, if at any time they should possess the Kingdome of England; yet vpon this condition, that Queene Elizabeth would fully performe this thing on her part

toward her and her husband : viz. by Parliament establish the succession of the Crowne of England in her person, and her lawfull issue, and if that failed, in Margaret Countesse of Lennox, her husbands mother, and her children lawfully begotten. As for the other things, shee answered : That shee had acquainted the Queene with her mariage with Darly (as soone as she was fully determined to marie him) and had receiued no answer from her : That she had satisfied the Queenes demands, forasmuch as she had not married a stranger, but an English man borne, who was the noblest in birth, and most worthiest of her in all Britaine that she knew : But it seemed strange, that she might not keepe with her Darly, whom shee had married, or not keepe Lennox in Scotland, who was a natiue Earle of Scotland. As for Murrey, whom she had tried to bee her mortall enemye, shee in faire words besought her to leaue her subjects vnto her owne discretion, since

that she did not intermeddle in the causes of the subiects of England. With this answer Tamworth returned not respected (as he thought) according to his estate and place (for to say the truth, the malapert fellow had touched the reputation and credit of the Queene of Scotland, with I know not what slander, and had not vouchsafed to giue her husband the title of King.

Anno 1566.

In Iune the Queene of Scotland in a happie houre, and to the perpetuall felicitie of Britaine, was deliuered of her sonne Iames (who is now the Monarch of Britaine) which she signified forthwith vnto Queen Elizabeth by Iames Meluin. Who although she was grieued at the heart, that the honour to bee a mother was borne away before her by her aduersarie, yet she sent Henry Killigrew incontinently to congratulate with her for her

safe deliuerance, and the birth of a sonne : And to will her not to fauour any more Shane O-Neale, then rebelling in Ireland, nor to entertaine Christopher Rokesby fled out of England, and to punish certain theeues vpon the borders.

Shortly after the estates of the Realme in the Parliament holden at London, moued the Queen earnestly to marry, and to set down and nominate her successor : but she by no meanes could be drawne to it. Yet that it might appeare to the world, whom shee thought most rightfull successor, shee cast into prison Thornton the Reader of the Law, at Lincolnes Inne in London, at that time, of whom the Queene of Scotland had complained, that he in his reading had called into question, and made a doubt of the right of her succession.

The time being come for the baptizing of the Prince of Scotland, the Queene of England being requested to be God-mother, sent the Earle of Bedford with a

Font of massie gold for a gift, and commanded expresly, that neither hee nor any English men that accompanied him, should vouchsafe to call Darly by the name of King.

That Ceremonie being finished, the Earle of Bedford dealt with Queene of Scotland about other things contained in his commission: that is to wit, That the domesticall contentions betweene her and her husband might be compounded (for some malicious sworne enemies to them both, had craftily broken asunder that most pleasant societie of life and loue betweene them) and the treatie of Edenburgh ratified. This last thing she vtterly denied, alleadging, that in the treatie was much matter that might impeach and derogate from her owne and her childrens right vnto the Crowne of England. Yet shee promised to send Commissioners into England, who should talke about the confirmation thereof, changing some words, namely, that she should forbear

to vse the title and armes of England, whilest Queen Elizabeth liued, and her children : As though it were meant in the treatie, that shee should forbear to vse them for euer. And also should declare vnto her, how iniuriously shee was vsed by their villanous deuices, that abused the simplicitie and credulitie of her husband, more than was to bee suffered. And now she being sickly and weake, in her letters commended her young sonne vnto the fidelitie and protection of Queen Elizabeth : in which letters (though she knew, I vse the words of the letters, that she is the vndoubted rightfull heire of England, after Queene Elizabeth ; and that many imagine and deuise sundrie things against the right) shee promised that shee would not vrge any more any declaration of her right, but that shee will help, assist, and cleaue vnto her alwaies with all her power, against all persons.



Anno 1567.

Bvt before those Commissioners came from the Queene of Scotland, and a moneth or two after the Prince was Christened ; the King her husband in the one and twentieth yeere of his age, in the dead time of the night, by a hatefull and abominable villanie (which all good men doe detest) was strangled in his bed, and cast into a garden, and the house blowne vp with Gun-powder. A rumour forthwith was diuulged in all Brittain, and the fault laid vpon Mourten, Murry, and their confederates. And they insulting vpon the weaknesse of her sex, laid it from themselues vpon the Queene. What George Buchanan hath written hereof, as well in his Historie, as in a Pamphlet called the Detection, is knowne to all men by those printed bookes. But since hee, carried away with partiall affection, and with the gifts of Murrey, wrote in that manner, those bookes were condemned



of falshood, by the Estates of the Realme of Scotland, vnto whom more credit is to bee giuen: And he himselfe lamented and bewailed vnto the King (whose Schoolemaster hee was) reprouing himselfe oftentimes (as I haue heard) that he had written so spightfully against the well-deseruing Queene: And at his death, wished that he might haue liued so long, vntil hee might wipe out with a recantation, or with his bloud, the spots and staines hee had falsly laid on her. But that (as hee said) would be to no purpose, since he should seeme to doat for old age. Let it be lawfull for me (that the other part may also bee heard) in few words to lay open all the matter as much as I can vnderstand without any hate or loue, as well out of the writings of other men which were set forth at that time, but suppressed in fauour of Murrey, and vpon hatred vnto the Queene Captiue in England, as also out of the letters of Embassadors, and of men of good credit.

In the yeere of our Lord one thousand five hundred fiftie and eight, at the marriage of Francis the Dolphin, and of MARIE Queene of Scotland, Iames the Queenes Bastard-brother, commonly called the Prior of Saint Andrewes, disdainig that Religious appellation, sued for a more honourable title : which when she, by the aduice of the Guises her Vncles, would not grant, he returned into Scotland much offended, and began to make broiles vnder a goodly pretence of the reformation of Religion, and assuring the libertie of Scotland ; and effected it so farre, that Religion was changed in an assembly of the Confederates, without the Queenes priuitie : And the French men were remoued out of Scotland by the helpe of the English men they had brought in : Francis the King of France being deceased, he poasted into France, vnto his sister, and laying from himselfe whatsoeuer had been done in Scotland against her profit or credit, calling God

to witnesse, solemnly promised to doe all the kind offices which a sister could expect at the hands of a brother. And conceiuing also a hope, that she being bred vp from her tender yeeres in the delights of France, would not returne into Scotland, dealt with the Guises, that some one of the Scottish Nobilitie might be named Regent of Scotland, and as with his finger, shewed himselfe as the fittest man. But when he was sent backe into Scotland, with no other authoritie, but onely with Letters Patents, wherein the Queene gaue authoritie to assemble the Nobilitie, and to aduise and conferre about the good of the common wealth; hee being delected and frustrate of his hope, returning thorow England, in a rage and furie put into their heads, that if they desired or had a care of the preservation of Religion in Scotland, the tranquillitie of England, and securitie of Queen Elizabeth, they should hinder the returne of the Queene of Scotland into

Scotland, by one meanes or other. Yet shee arriued safe in Scotland, passing by the English Fleet in a thicke mist, and vsing her brother with all courtesie, commended the gouernment of all the affaires into his hands.

Yet these things did not cut off the branches of his ambition, which daily sprang out, both in words and deeds: For neither could he containe himselfe, but that oftentimes amongst his friends he would lament, that the warlike Scottish Nation, no lesse than that of the English men, was subiected to the gouernment of a woman, and out of the doctrine of Knox (whom hee accounted as a Patriarke) hee would often discourse that Kingdomes were due vnto vertue, not vnto kindred: That women were to bee excluded from the succession of Kingdomes; and that their rule was monstrous. Hee dealt also with the Queene by his friends, that she would substitute some out of the familie of the Stewarts,

who if she died without issue, should succeed one after another in the Kingdome; and not to haue any regard whether they were legitimate or illegitimate, hoping that he should be one of them, being a Kings sonne, although illegitimate. But the Queene, when she out of her wisdome weighed, that such a substitution was a thing contrary to the Lawes of the Land, and would be a wrong vnto the right heires, a most pernicious example, and perillous also for the substitutes themselves, yea and a barre vnto her to keepe her from mariage againe. She answered mildly, that she would take deliberation in the matter, and consult with the Estates of the Realme about it. And to shew her selfe courteous and bountifull to her brother, she created him Earle of Marre, and afterward Earle of Murrey (because Marre was in controuersie) and aduanced him to an honourable mariage: All this shee did, being all this while ignorant that hee affected the Kingdome; (bragging

that he was the lawfull sonne of Iames the fift.) And to make the way thereunto, he through the fauour wherein hee stood with the Queene, oppressed the most noble familie of the Gordons, who had very many vassals, tenants and retainers, whom hee feared much, both in respect of himselfe, and of their religion: And banished from the Court the Duke of Chasteaulroy (who was accounted the next heire to the Crowne) imprisoned the Earle of Arran his sonne, banished Bothwell into England, and put all them that he thought might crosse him, out of office: And he as a Guardian kept the Queene as his Ward, and at his command, being most carefull and diligent to keepe her from mariage.

And as soone as he vnderstood, that on the one side the Emperour sued to her for his brother, and the King of Spaine for his sonne; he dissuaded her vtterly from them both; because (forsooth) the libertie of Scotland would not, nor could not



endure a forraigne Prince. And whensoever that gouernment descended vnto women, that they married no other husbands, but of the Scottish Nation: But afterwards, when all the Scots generally wished to see her married, and hee found out that the Countesse of Lennox had so prouidently wrought, that shee inclined to marrie Darly; hee also commended him as a good husband for her, hoping the young man, being of a soft nature, would be ruled by him in all things. Yet when hee saw the Queene to loue Darly exceedingly, and he himselfe to grow out of her fauour, hee repented him of his counsell he had giuen, and willed Queene Elizabeth to hinder her mariage by one meanes or other.

The mariage being made vp, and Darly proclaimed King, when the Queene reuoked the donations made to him and others, against the Lawes in her minoritie; hee with other, put himselfe in armes against the King; alleadging, that the



new King was an enemie vnto the Religion of the Protestants; and that he was married without the consent of the Queene of England. But hee fled into England (as I have already said) neuer aduenturing to fight: And being frustrate of all hope of helpe from thence, hee dealt by letters with Mourton, a profound subtile man, who was as his other selfe, that since the mariage could not bee dissolued, yet that the loue betweene the parties might be broken by some secret deuices: and a fit occasion offered it selfe; for she vpon the arising of some priuate discontent, to keepe vnder the swelling minde of the young man, and to conserue her royall authoritie whole to her selfe, had begunne to set her husbands name last in the Proclamations and Records, and to omit it vtterly in the coine.

Mourton being a cunning man to breed discontents, with his flattering words crept into the Kings good liking and opinion, and then perswaded him

to take vpon him the Crowne of the Realme, yea, in despight of the Queene, and to make himselfe free from the gouernment of women; for that is the condition of women, said he, to obey, and of men to rule. By this counsell, if it were taken, he hoped not onely to draw away the loue of the Queene, but of all the Nobilitie and commons also from the King, to estrange the Queene, and with diuers slanders first heartened the King to murther David Rizius a Piedmountoy, lest that politike fellow should preuent their purposes (this man was a Musitian by profession, and came the last yeere with Moret the Embassador of Sauoy; and by the Queene for his wit and dexteritie receiued into her household and fauor, and preferred to write her French letters, and vnto her priuie Councell in the absence of the Secretarie). Then to estrange her loue the more, he perswaded the King to bee present at the murder, with Ruthen and the rest, who

rushing together with him into the Queenes dining Parlour, at supper time (shee sitting at the table with the Countesse of Argile) assaulted the fellow with their naked swords, as he tasted the meat taken from the Queenes table, at the Cupbord (as the seruants of the priuie Chamber vse to doe) before her face, being great with childe, trembling with feare, setting a Pistoll at her breast : so that shee was in danger of abortion, and dragged him into the vtter Chamber, where they most cruelly killed him, and shut up the Queene into a Parlour ; Mourton all this while guarding all the passages.

This murther was committed the euen- ing before the day appointed vnto Murrey to appeare for his triall in the assembly of the Estates for his rebellion, who came in on the next day, when no body expected him, and no man appeared against him in that troublesome time : So that it may seeme that the murder of Dauid was hastened of set purpose to procure the securi-

tie and safety of Murrey. Yet the Queene at the earnest suit of the King, receiued him courteously, and continued in brotherly loue towards him. But the King when he considered the enormitie of the offence (and seeing now the Queene to bee very angry) repented his rashnesse, and in humble manner submitted himself vnto her clemencie, weeping and lamenting, and asking pardon, did ingenuously confesse, that he committed that hainous offence by the instigation of Murrey and Mourton: and from thenceforth did so hate Murrey, (for Mourton, Ruthen, and others, were fled into England vpon the murther, with the commendatorie letters of Murrey vnto Bedford) that hee deuised to kill him. But when out of wrath and rashnesse, hee could not conceale his purpose, nor (such was his respect vnto the Queene his wife) durst execute it; he told her how profitable it would bee for the common-wealth, and also for the securitie of the royall

family, if Murrey were rid out of the way. She detesting the thing, terrified him euen with threats, from such enterprises, putting him in hope of reconciliation. Yet hee when hee saw, to his hearts grieve, the Bastard to be of such power with the Queene, out of his impatience hee plotted the same matter with others ; which when it came to the eares of Murrey, to preuent him, vnder colour of dutie, hee laieth closer snares for the young man, vsing Mourton (though absent) for his counsellor.

They thought it requisite aboue all things, vtterly to auert the Queenes minde from the King ; and by flatterie to induce Bothwell, lately reconciled vnto Murrey, and in great fauour with the Queene, into their societie, shewing him a hope to be diuorced from his wife, and to marrie with the Queene, as soone as she was widow. And for the performance of these things, and also to defend himself against all persons, they bound themselues vnder

their hands and seales, being perswaded, if the matter hit right, that they might by one labour kill the King, vtterly discredit the Queene amongst the Nobilitie and Commons, vndoe Bothwell vtterly, and bring the gouernment of all the affaires vnto their hands.

Bothwell being a lewd minded man, blinded with ambition, and therefore venturous to attempt, quickly laid hold on the hope offered vnto him, and villanously committed the murther. But Murrey had secretly gone home a prettie way off, fifteene houres before, that hee might no way be suspected; and that hee might from thence giue aid vnto the Conspirators, when any need was, and all the suspition might light vpon the Queene. As soone as he returned vnto the Court, both he and the Conspirators commended vnto her Bothwell, as most worthy of her loue, for the Nobilitie of his familie, his valour shewed against the English, and his approued fidelitie. They



put in her head, that she being alone and solitaire, was not able to repress the tumults that were raised, preuent secret plots, and vphold the burthen and heauie weight of the Kingdome. Therefore she might doe well to take as a Companion of her bed, counsell, and danger, the man that could, would, and durst oppose himselfe against all trouble. And they draue and enforced her so farre, that the fearefull woman, daunted with two tragicall murthers, and remembring the fidelitie and constancie of Bothwell towards her and her mother, and hauing no other friend vnto whom to resort, but vnto her brothers fidelitie, gaue her consent: Yet vpon these conditions, that aboue all this, prouision might be made for the safetie little sonne; and then, that Bothwell as well might bee cleared from the murther of the King, as also from the bond of his former mariage.

What George Earle of Huntley, and the Earle of Argile, men of great Nobilitie



in Scotland, did forthwith protest of this matter, I thinke good to set downe in this place, out of the originall, with their owne hands, sent vnto Queene Elizabeth, which I haue seene. Forasmuch as Murrey and others, to cloake their rebellion against the Queene (whose authorities they usurpe ; doe slander her openly, as priuie and consenting vnto her husbands death : We doe publikely protest and sweare these things. In the Moneth of December, in the yeere of our Lord God one thousand fve hundred fiftie and six, when the Queene lay at Cragmyller, Murrey and Lidington did acknowledge before us, That Mourton, Lyndsey, and Ruthven killed Dauid Rizio, for no other end, but to procure the safetie of Murrey, who was to be attainted at the same time. Therefore lest they should be vnthankfull, they wished that Mourton and the rest, banished for the death of Dauid, might be brought home againe : And this they insinuated could not be done, except

the Queene were separated by a diuorce from the King, which they promised to effect, if we grant our consents. And afterwards Murrey promised vnto me George Earle of Huntley, the restitution of my ancient Patrimonie, and perpetuall fauour of the banished men, if I would fauour the diuorce. Then they went vnto Bothwell, that hee should consent thereunto. Lastly, we came vnto the Queene, and Lidington in all our names besought her exceedingly to remit the sentence of exile against Mourton, Lyndsey and Ruthen: He exaggerated the faults and crimes of the King with bitter words; and shewed, that it was much for the good and benefit of the Queene and the Common-wealth, that a diuorce were speedily sued out: forasmuch as the King and she could not liue together with securitie in Scotland. She answered, she had rather depart into France, and liue priuately for a time, vntill her husband acknowledged his faults: for she would

haue nothing to be done that should be wrong to her sonne, or dishonour vnto her selfe. Hereunto Lidington replied, saying: Wee that are of your Councell will prouide for that. But I command you (said she) not to doe any thing which may be a blemish to my honour, or a staine to my conscience. Let things be as they be, vntill God aboue doe remedie it: That which you thinke may be good for mee, may proue euill. Vnto whom Lidington said, Commit the matter vnto vs, and you shall see nothing done but that which is good, and that which shall be allowed in the Parliament. Hereupon, since that within a few daies after, the King was most shamefully murdered; Wee out of the inward testimonie of our conscience, are most assured, that Murrey and Lidington were the authors and perswaders of this murder of the King, who-soeuer were the actors of the same. Thus much Huntley and Argile.

Now the Conspirators applied all their

skill that Bothwell might be cleared of killing the King: Therefore without delay, the Parliament is summoned for no other cause, and Proclamations are set out to apprehend the persons suspected for murdering the King. And when Lennox, father to the murdered King, accused and charged Bothwell as the Regicide, and was very importunate that Bothwell might bee brought to triall before the Parliament began: This also was granted; and Lennox commanded to come in with his accusation within twentie daies. On which day, when hee heard nothing from the Queene of England, and could not bee present in the Citie full of his enemies, without danger of his life; Bothwell was brought to the Barre, and arraigned, and acquitted by the sentence of the Iudges: Mourton also vpholding and maintaining his cause, and openly taking his part.

This businesse being finished, the Conspirators wrought so, that the most of the

Nobilitie gaue their consent vnto the mariage, under their hands and seales, lest he (frustrated of the promised mariage) should appeach them as contriuers of the murder. But of this mariage of the Queene with Bothwell (who was created Duke of the Orkenies) the suspition increased with all men, that the Queene was consenting to the Kings death : which the Conspirators increased by letters sent into all places, and in their secret meetings at Dunkleden they conspired forthwith to kill Bothwell, and depriue the Queene : Yet Murrey, that hee might be thought cleere of this conspiracie, obtained leaue of the Queene (but hardly) to traueil into France. And that he might put all diffidence out of her head, hee commended all his affaires and estate in Scotland, vnto the Queene and Bothwell. Hee was scarce gone out of England, but behold the same men which had cleered and acquitted Bothwell from the murder, and consented vnto the

marriage vnder their hands and seales, took vp armes against Bothwell, as meaning to apprehend him : And indeed they secretly willed him to saue himselfe by flight, for no other intent, but that hee should not be taken, and discouer all their plot, and withall, that they might lay hold of his flight, as an argument or reason to accuse the Queene of killing the King. But shee being taken, they used her most contumeliously, and in most vnseemely fashion, and putting on her an old cloake, thrust her into prison at Lochleuyn, vnder the custodie of the mother of Murrey, who had beene the Concubine of Iames the fift, who most malapertly insulted ouer the calamitie of the imprisoned Queene, boasting that shee her selfe was the lawfull wife of Iames the fift, and that her sonne Murrey was his lawfull issue.

As soone as Queene Elizabeth vnderstood these things, in her minde detesting this barbarous insolencie of Subjects (whom she called oftentimes Traitors,



Rebels, vnthankfull and cruell fellowes) against a Princesse, her sister, and neighbour; She sent Nicholas Throgmorton into Scotland, to expostulate with the conspirators for this insolence vsed against their Queene, and to take some course how to restore her into her former libertie, and for the seuere punishment of the murderers of the King; and that the young King might be sent into England, that order might bee taken for his securitie, and not sent into France. And what I shall after declare (during his abode in Scotland) take yee vpon the credit of his letters, which is approued.

He found the most part in Scotland incensed against the Queene, who in plaine termes denied accesse vnto her, both to him, and also to Villeroy and Crocus the French Embassadors. Yet could not the Conspirators agree among themselues what to doe with her: Lidington and a few others would haue her to be restored vpon these conditions: That



the murderers of the King should bee punished according to Law ; The Princes safetie prouided for ; Bothwell diuorced, and Religion established. Others would haue her to bee banished for euer into France, or into England : So as the King of France or Queene of England, did giue their words, that she should resigne the Kingdome, and transferre all her authoritie vnto her sonne and certaine Noble men. Others were of opinion, that shee should be arraigned publikely, and condemned vnto perpetuall prison, and her sonne crowned King : Lastly, others would haue her depriued both of her life and Kingdome, by a publike execution. And this Knox and some Ministers of the Word, thundered out of their Pulpits.

On the other side, Throgmorton out of the holy Scriptures brought many places to proue, that obedience was to bee yeelded vnto the higher powers, that carry the sword : And wittily argued, that the Queene was not subiect to the iudgement

of any but onely of the celestially Iudge : That she could not be arraigned or brought to triall before any Iudge on the earth : And that there is no Magistrate had any authoritie in Scotland, which is not deriued from the authoritie of the Queene, and reuocable at her pleasure. They opposed the peculiar Law of the Kingdome, among the Scots, and that in extraordinarie causes, extraordinarie courses were to bee vsed : receiuing their reasons from Buchanan, who at that time by the perswasion of Murrey, wrote that damned and hatefull Dialogue, *De iure Regni apud Scotos* : wherein is maintained, that the people haue authoritie to create and depriue Kings, against the truth of the Scottish Histories. Yet ceased not Throgmorton to make many earnest motions for the restitution of the Queene, and for accesse vnto her ; though Lidington had answered him oftentimes, that his accesse could not bee granted, since it was denied vnto the French : That

they must not displease the French, to please the Queene of England, whom they had tried, did but serue her owne turne, since for her owne good shee hoped to expulse the French out of Scotland; and very lately shewed so little fauour, and was so niggardly to the Scottish men exiled for the killing of Dauid Rizius. Moreouer, he was to beware lest the Scots out of his importunitie should neglect the English men, and incline vnto the friendship of the French, and secretly aduised him with the French Prouerbe, *Il perd le jeu, qui laisse la partie*: That the English men should not abandon the Scots their friends.

Then in a long writing, which they deliuered to Throgmorton, without any subscription, they protested, that they shut vp the Queene into that solitarie place, for no other intent, but that they might keep her asunder from Bothwell, whom she loued unmeasurably, to worke

their confusion, untill that wilfull loue towards him, and her womanly teene towards them was asswaged; and bade him rest content with this answer, vntill the rest of the Noblemen met. Yet euery day they curbed her more of her libertie, though she with abundance of teares, and most humble requests, begged of them to deale more mildly with her; if not as the Queene, yet as with a Kings daughter, and mother to the Prince, whom she made humble suit that she might see oftentimes, but in vaine. But that I may not insist vpon particular iniuries, at last they spake her faire, and willed her to giue ouer her gouernment, taking either her sicknesse, or the troubles in gouernment, for an excuse; or, as other more subtilly willed her, that the resignation being made, she being then kept more negligently or carelesly, might make an escape. When these tricks proued not, they threatned openly to arraigne her of incontinencie of life, of killing the King,

and tyrannie; namely, that she had violated the Lawes and right of the Land, to wit, those which Randan and D'Oissell had confirmed in the King of France and her name. At length, terrifying her with death, they compelled her to put her hand vnto their Letters Patents, which she neuer saw nor heard read; in the beginning whereof, shee resigned her Realme to her sonne some thirteene moneths old: In the second branch thereof, she appointed Murrey Regent, during the minoritie of her sonne: In the third, if Murrey refused the charge, she named these new gouernours of her sonne; Iames Duke of Chasteauleroy, Matthew Earle of Lennox, Gilbert Earle of Argile, Iohn Earle of Atholl, Iames Earle of Mourton, Alexander Earle of Glencarne, and Iohn Earle of Marre. And without delay she signified by Throgmorton, vnto the Queene of England, that she had resigned by coaction, and had subscribed to the Cession or Resig-

nation against her will, by the counsell and aduice of Throgmorton; who had perswaded her, that the Cession extorted in the prison (which is a iust feare) was vndoubtedly void and of no validitie. But of these things you shall heare more the next yeere, out of the accusations and defences of both the parties, before the Commissioners at Yorke.

On the fifth day after the resignation, Iames the Queenes young son was anointed and crowned King, Iohn Knox making the Sermon: The Hamiltons putting in a protestation, that it should be no preiudice vnto the Duke of Chasteauleroy in the right of succession against the familie of Lennox. But Queene ELIZABETH forbade Throgmorton to be present thereat, that shee might not bee thought to allow the vniust abdication of the Queene, by the presence of her Ambassador.

On the twentieth day after the resignation, Murrey himselfe returned out of France; and the third day after, he with



many of the Conspirators came vnto the Queene, against whom hee laid many hainous crimes, and perswaded her to turne vnto God by true repentance, and to aske mercie of him. She shewed her selfe sorrowfull for the sinnes of her former life, she confessed some things hee objected, others shee extenuated, others shee excused by humane frailtie, and the most matters shee vtterly denied. She required him to take the gouernment of the affaires for her sonne, and required him earnestly to spare her life, and her reputation. He said, it lay not in his power, but it was to be sought for of the States of the Realme; yet if shee desired to haue her life and honour saued, hee prescribed these things for her to keepe: That shee should not trouble nor disturbe the tranquillitie of the Realme; That she should not steale out of prison, not moue the Queene of England, or the King of France, to vex Scotland with forraigne or ciuill warre; That she should not loue Bothwell any more,



or deuise to take reuenge on the enemies of Bothwell.

The Regent being proclaimed, bound himselfe by his hand and seale, to doe nothing concerning peace or warre, the person of the King or his mariage, or the libertie of the Queene, wiithout the consent of the Conspirators. Hee willed Throgmorton by Lidington, not to intreat any more for the Queene; for that hee and the rest had rather endure all things, than that she being freed, should keepe Bothwell companie, bring her sonne into danger, her Countrie into trouble, and also proscribe them. We know (said he) what you English men can doe by warre: You may waste our borders, and we may yours; & we know assuredly, that the French men in regard of our ancient league, will not abandon and forsake vs. He denied also Ligneroll the French Embassador, to haue accesse vnto the Queene, vntill Bothwell was taken; and euery day hee vsed the distressed Queene worse

and worse, whereas shee had deserued well at his hands, and contrary to his promise he had made vnto the King of France. Thus much out of the Letters of Throgmorton.

Shortly after, Murrey put to death Iohn Hepborne, Paris a French man, Daglish, and the other seruants of Bothwell, who had beene present at the Kings death: But they (which Murrey little expected) at the Gallowes protested before God and the Angels, that they vnderstood by Bothwell, that Murrey and Mourton were the authors of killing the King, and cleered the Queene from all suspition; as Bothwell himselfe prisoner in Denmarke all his life time, and at his death, did with many solemne oathes and religious protestations, affirme, that the Queene was not priuie nor consenting to it. And fourteene yeeres after, when Mourton was to suffer death, hee confessed, that Bothwell dealt with him to consent vnto the murder of the King, which when he vtterly denied,

except that the Queene did command it vnder her hand: To that Bothwell did answer, that could not be done, but that the deed must bee done without her knowledge.

This rash, precipitate and ouer-hastie abdication or depriuation of the Queene, and the ouerthwart stubbornnesse of the Conspirators towards the Embassadors, both Queene Elizabeth and the French King tooke very hainously, as a thing tending to the reproach of royall Maiestie, and began to fauour the Hamiltons, who stood for the Queene. Pasquier also Embassador from the French King, dealt with the Queene of England, that she might be restored by force of armes; but shee thought it the better way to forbid the Scots all trafficke in France and England, vntill shee was deliuered; and so by that meanes the common people might bee disioined from the Noblemen, who (as it seemed) were vnited in the conspiracie against the Queene.

Anno 1568.

In Scotland the captiue Queene vpon the second day of May, escaped out of prison in Lochleuin, by the meanes of George Dowglas, whose brother had the custodie of her, vnto the Castle of Hamilton; where, hearing the testimonie of Robert Meluin and others, a sentence Declaratorie was made by the whole consent of all the Noblemen which were there met, being very many: That the Resignation extorted by feare from the Queene, was void from the beginning; and that the same was extorted, is confirmed by the oath of the Queene there present. Hereupon such a multitude came vnto her from all places in a day or two, as shee had an armie of six thousand valiant men, which yet Murrey easily put to flight, because they were so fierce, and would not bee ordered in the fight. The fearefull Queene, terrified with this vnfortunate successe, betooke her selfe vnto

flight, riding that day threescore miles, and afterwards, by iournies in the night, came vnto the house of Maxwell, Lord Herris ; and was more willing to commit her selfe vnto the protection of Queen Elizabeth, than to trust her owne subiects. Yet she sent before one Iohn Beton, vnto her (with a Diamond, which she had before receiued of her, as a token betweene them of beneuolence) who should signifie vnto her, that she would come vnto England, and aske aid of her, if her subiects pursued her any farther by warre : vnto whom Queene Elizabeth promised very largely all loue and sisterly kindnesse. But before the messenger returned, she went into a little Barke (her friends much disswading her) with the Lords, Herris and Fleming, and few other, and landed the seuenteenth day of May at Worlington in Cumberland, neere vnto the mouth of the Riuer Derwent ; and the same day wrote Letters in the French tongue, with her owne hand, vnto Queene Elizabeth :

Of the which the chiefe heads (since they doe comprize a longer Historicall narration of the things done against her in Scotland, than I haue declared) I thinke good to set downe out of the originall, which is in this manner.

You are not ignorant (my best sister) how many of my Subiects, whom I haue aduanced vnto great honour, haue conspired to oppresse and imprison mee, and my husband; and how at your intercession I receiued the same men into fauour, whom I had expelled out of my Kingdome by force of armes. But yet these men brake into my Chamber, and cruelly killed my seruant, I being great with childe, beholding it, and shut me vp in prison. When I had againe forgiuen them, behold, they laid vpon me a new crime, which themselues had wrought, and signed with ther owne hands; and shortly after were enranked in battell against me in the field: but I trusting in my innocencie, to auoid the shedding of

bloud, put my selfe into their hands ; forthwith they thrust me into prison, sent away all my seruants, but one or two maids, a Cooke, and a Physitian, enforced me by threats and feare of death, to resigne my Kingdome, and in the assembly of the Estates called by their owne authoritie, denied to heare me and my Agents, spoiled me of all my goods, and kept me from the speech of all men. Afterwards, by Gods helpe, I escaped out of prison, and accompanied with the flower of the Nobles, who came ioiffully vnto mee, from all parts, I admonished mine enemies of their duty and allegiance ; I offered them pardon, and proposed that both parts might bee heard in the assembly of the Estates, that the Common-wealth might not any longer be torne in sunder by these intestine mischiefes. I sent two messengers about this matter, they cast them both into prison ; they proclaimed them that assisted me Traitors, and commanded them forthwith to leaue mee. I



requested that the Lord Boyd might talke with them vnder a safe conduct, about a composition ; but they also denied the same vtterly. Yet I hoped they might haue beene recalled to acknowledge their dutie by your intercession. But when I saw I was to vndergoe either death or imprisonment, I intended to haue gone vnto Dunbritton ; but they met mee in armes vpon the way, and put my friends vnto flight. I gat mee vnto the Lord Herris, with whom I am come into your Kingdome, vpon a certaine hope of your approued beneuolence, that you will helpe mee friendly, and by your example excite others to doe the same. Therefore I earnestly request you, that I may bee brought vnto you speedily, for I am now in great distresse, which I will tell you more at large, when it shall please you to haue compassion on mee. God grant you long and happy life, vnto me patience and comfort, which I hope and pray I may obtaine of him by your meanes.

Queene Elizabeth in her Letters by Francis Knowles, and others, comforted her, and promised to protect her according to the equitie of her cause, but denied her to come to her presence, for that by report she was charged with many crimes, and commanded that she should be conueied vnto Carlile, as vnto a safer place (if her enemies attempted any thing against her) by Lowder Lieutenant of the place, and the power of the Gentlemen of the Countrie. Shee hauing receiued this answer, and the accesse denied, both by her Letters, and also by Maxwell Lord Herris, she earnestly besought her, That shee might as well shew the iniuries receiued by her, as also cleare her selfe of the crimes objected against her in her presence : That it was most iust that Queene Elizabeth her nearest kinswoman of bloud should heare her in her presence, being banished ; and also restore her vnto her Kingdome, against those whom being banished for their villanies committed,

shee had restored vnto their estates, at the intercession of Queen Elizabeth, and that to her own destruction, except it were speedily auerted. Therefore she humbly requested, that either shee might bee admitted to her speech, and holpen, or that she might speedily bee permitted with her leaue and fauour to depart out of England, to craue help from some other place, and not to be detained any longer like a prisoner in the Castle of Carlile; for forasmuch as shee came voluntarily into England, trusting on her loue, oftentimes promised by Letters, Messengers, and tokens.

Through these letters, and the words of Herris, Queene Elizabeth seemed (for who can reach into the secret cogitations of Princes? and wise people conceale to themselues their owne purposes) from her heart to haue compassion of this Princesse her kinswoman, being in very great distresse; who was taken by her Subiects by force, thrust into prison, brought into

danger of her life, condemned, and yet neuer heard speake in her owne defence which is neuer denied to a priuate man) and had fled into England vnto her vpon an assured hope of helpe and reliefe. Moreouer, she was much moued, that the distressed Queene had voluntarily offered, to haue her cause argued and disputed of before her, and had taken vpon her to proue her aduersaries guiltie of all the crimes whereof they had accused her, who was innocent.

Omn

JES

10

THE END.





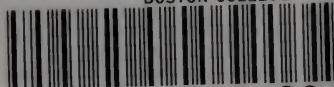








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